

Romance
Plants do
it, too **GARDENING A2**

On to Final Four
Flag girls beat Coco, make state semis **SPORTS B1**



Clyde's day
Pluto discovered
Feb. 18, 1930 **MARS HILL A5**



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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2018

azdailysun.com



JAKE BACON, ARIZONA DAILY SUN

PUTTIN' ON THE MITTEN

John Albert, principal at Sechrist Elementary School, above, dances with his first-grade students during their production of the Mitten Friday morning in the school gym. At right, Megan Hanson, 7, dances with fellow snowflakes Friday morning during the annual first-grade production of the Mitten at Sechrist Elementary School. For more photos, please visit www.azdailysun.com



FLORIDA SCHOOL SHOOTING

FBI says it failed to follow tip on shooter

Sheriff's office also had received more than 20 complaints

KELLI KENNEDY, CURT ANDERSON AND TAMARA LUSH
Associated Press

PARKLAND, Fla. — The FBI received a tip last month that the suspect in the Florida school shooting had a “desire to kill” and access to guns and could be plotting an attack, but agents failed to investigate, the agency

said Friday. Florida Gov. Rick Scott called for the FBI's director to resign because of the missteps. Attorney General Jeff Sessions said the shooting that killed 17 people Wednesday was a “tragic consequence” of the FBI's failure and ordered a review of the Justice Department's processes. He said it's now clear that the nation's premier law enforcement agency missed warning signs. In more evidence that there had been signs of trouble with the suspect, Broward County Sheriff Scott Israel said at a Fri-

day news conference that his office had received more than 20 calls about Nikolas Cruz in the past few years. A person close to Cruz called the FBI's tip line on Jan. 5 and provided information about Cruz's weapons and his erratic behavior, including his disturbing social media posts. The caller was concerned that Cruz could attack a school. In a statement, the agency acknowledged that the tip should

Please see **SHOOTING**, Page A7

Russian ‘meddlers’ indicted

Special counsel says Putin crony bankrolled fake election websites

ERIC TUCKER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In an extraordinary indictment, the U.S. special counsel accused 13 Russians on Friday of an elaborate plot to disrupt the 2016 presidential election, charging them with running a huge but hidden social media trolling campaign aimed in part at helping Republican Donald Trump defeat Democrat Hillary Clinton. The federal indictment, brought by special counsel Robert Mueller, represents the most detailed allegations to date of illegal Russian meddling during the campaign that sent Trump to the White House. It also marks the first criminal charges against Russians believed to have secretly worked to influence the outcome.

The Russian organization was funded by Yevgeny Prigozhin, the indictment says. He is a wealthy St. Petersburg businessman with ties to the Russian government and President Vladimir Putin. Trump quickly claimed vindication Friday, noting in a tweet that the alleged interference efforts began in 2014 — “long before I announced that I would run for President.” “The results of the election were not impacted. The Trump campaign did nothing wrong — no collusion!” he tweeted. But the indictment does not resolve the collusion question at the heart of the continuing Mueller probe, which before Friday had produced charges against four Trump associates. U.S. intelligence agencies have previously said the Russian government interfered to benefit Trump, including by orchestrating the hacking of Democratic emails, and Mueller has been assessing whether the campaign coordinated with the Kremlin.

Please see **INDICTMENTS**, Page A7

Tusayan election spending hit \$17K

Far cry from \$700K on incorporation

EMERY COWAN
Sun Staff Reporter

Last November's fight over a ballot measure to increase building height limits in the town of Tusayan was funded exclusively by two predictable players, according to a roundup of campaign finance records. Spending in support of the measure can be traced back to Stilo Development Group USA, the Italian real estate developer that has attempted for decades to build major commercial and housing projects in town. Opposition to higher building heights was bankrolled by hotel owner

and property manager Clarinda Vail, a longtime critic of Stilo's projects. When the results came in, the measure was defeated by 11 votes. If approved, the tallest buildings in town would have been able to reach 65 feet instead of the current 35-to-40-foot limit. The Stilo-backed group is focused on building in town after being blocked from putting up buildings just outside Tusayan by a Forest Service easement denial. In all, the two sides spent about \$17,000 on the election itself. The pro-height increase group, Tusayan's Future, spent \$12,000, all of which came from

Please see **SPENDING**, Page A7

House backs Tasers, pepper spray on campus

HOWARD FISCHER
Capitol Media Services

PHOENIX — Students, faculty, staff and visitors are a step closer to being able to carry some kinds of weapons on the campuses of public colleges and universities. HB 2172, approved by the House Thursday on a 35-23 vote, is designed to provide new options for self-defense.

It specifically would overrule existing policies at the state's three universities that now make over-the-counter pepper spray the only type of weapon permitted. The legislation, which now goes to the Senate, also would trump no-weapons policies at community colleges. What would now be allowed is not spelled out in HB 2172.

Instead, the measure would permit “non-lethal weapons,” defined as those “explicitly designed and developed to incapacitate or repel a person with a low probability of fatality or permanent injury.” Rep. Ken Clark, D-Phoenix, said that lack of definition — and of limits — is dangerous. He told colleagues the Department of Defense defines “non-lethal

weapons” to include flash grenades “which you can buy on-line for about \$50” and 40 mm blunt force munitions, “all of which are designed to be used by trained personnel, and at a distance.” Rep. Travis Grantham, R-Gilbert, said he deliberately kept it vague to allow for forms



MARCELO FREIXO/FICKR

Please see **WEAPONS**, Page A7 An electronic stun gun

DISCOVER DIGITAL



■ See a gallery of photos from Friday's Flag vs. Coco girls basketball game

AT AZDAILYSUN.COM

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Thursday, February 22

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